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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/303,356 04/29/99 BACHMANN

D AT9-98-955

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TM02/0228

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED:

02/28/01

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/303,356

Applicant(s)

Bachmann et al.

Examiner

Tam V Nguyen

Art Unit

2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ 20) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-5 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Barrett et al. (US 5,247,658).

Re claim 1, response to a request to delete a directory entry, tagging the directory entry in a first table, (see fig. 18 and Col. 11, lines 33-39); periodically searching for tagged entries in the first table during a cleanup process interval, (see fig. 18 and Col. 11, lines 33-39); and deleting references to the tagged entries throughout the set of database table, (see fig. 18, Col. 11, lines 33-39).

Re claim 2, wherein the directory entry is tagged by setting its creation time to a given value, (Col. 8, lines 10-24).

Re claims 3 and 11, wherein the given value is a null value, (Col. 7, lines 23-34).

Re claim 4, performing a search for directory entries that satisfy a search query, (Col. 11, lines 49-66); and excluding tagged entries from search results that otherwise satisfy the search query, (Col. 12, lines 23-37).

Re claim 5, wherein the step of excluding tagged entries includes modifying an SQL query to exclude rows having null change creation, Col. 1, lines 30-40).

Re claim 9, response to a request to delete a directory entry, tagging the directory entry in a first table, (see fig. 18 and Col. 11, lines 33-39); responsive to a search for directory entries that satisfy a search query, excluding tagged entries from search results that otherwise satisfy the search query, (Col. 11, lines 49-66); periodically searching for tagged entries in the first table during a cleanup process interval, (see fig. 18 and Col. 18, lines 33-39); and deleting references to the tagged entries throughout the set of database table, (see fig. 18 and fig. 1C, Col. 11, lines 33-39).

Re claim 10, wherein the directory entry is tagged by setting its creation time to a given value, (Col. 8, lines 10-24).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

2. Claims 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bachmann et al. (US 6,085,188).

Re claim 14, responsive to a search for directory entries that satisfy a search query, excluding given entries from search results that otherwise satisfy the search query, wherein the given entries identify database entries that have been tagged for deletion, (Col. 6, lines 14-25); and returning the search results, (Col. 7, lines 39-59, col. 9, lines 11-16, and Col. 10, lines 30-38).

Re claim 15, wherein the directory service is a lightweight Directory Access protocol (LDAP) directory service and the database is managed by a relational database management service, (Col. 4, lines 23-35).

Re claim 16, means responsive to a request to delete a directory entry for tagging the directory entry in a first table, (Col. 6, lines 43-59); means for periodically searching for tagged entries in the first table during a cleanup process interval, (Col. 5,

lines 51-Col. 6, lines 13); and means for deleting references to the tagged entries throughout the set of database tables, (Col. 6, lines 43-59).

Re claim 17, means responsive to a search for directory entries that satisfy a search query for excluding tagged entries from search results that otherwise satisfy the search query, (Col. 6, lines 14-25).

Re claim 18, wherein the search query is a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) directory service query, (Col. 8, lines 46-60).

Re claim 19, a directory organized as a naming hierarchy having a plurality of entries each represented by a unique identifier, (Col. 3, lines 63-Col. 4, lines 4 and Col. 5, lines 10-21); a relational database management system having a backing store for storing directory data in a set of database table, (Col. 4, lines 23-35); means responsive to a request to delete a directory entry for tagging the directory entry in a first table, (Col. 6, lines 43-59); means for periodically searching for tagged entries in the first table during a cleanup process interval, (Col. 5, lines 51-Col 6, lines 13); means for deleting references to the tagged entries throughout the set of database table, (Col. 6, lines 43-59); and means responsive to a search for directory entries that satisfy a search query for excluding tagged entries from search results that otherwise satisfy the search query, (Col. 6, lines 14-25).

Re claim 20, wherein the directory is compliant with the Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP), (Col. 8, lines 46-60).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 6-8 and 12-13 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable Barret et al. (US 5,247,658) in view of Bachmann et al. (US 6,085,188).

Re claim 6, Barret does not explicitly disclose " the directory is a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) directory service and the database tables are managed by a relational database management service".

Bachmann teaches the directory is a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) directory service and the database tables are managed by a relational database management service, (Col. 4, lines 23-35). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Barret by the directory is a Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) directory service and the

database tables are managed by a relational database management service, as taught by Bachmann, so this would provide users a single tool to comb through data to find a particular piece of information, such as user name, email address, security certificate, or other contact information, (Col. 4, lines 36-44).

Re claims 7 and 12, Bachmann further discloses wherein the first table is an entry table, (Col. 10, lines 45-50).

Re claims 8 and 13, Bachmann further discloses wherein the set of database tables includes at least one attribute table storing information about an attribute, (Col. 6, lines 26-41).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Mattis et al. (US 6128623) shows high performance object cache.

Gish (US 5999972) shows system, method and article of manufacture for a distributed computer system framework.

Gish (US 6038590) shows object-oriented system, method and article of manufacture for a client-server state machine in an enterprise computing framework system.

Minatogawa et al. (US 5983231) shows instance updating method and apparatus therefor.

Contact Fax Information

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Or Faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communication intended for entry)

Or:

(703) 308-5399, (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA. Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tam Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-7372. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

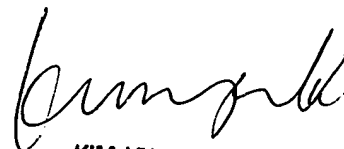
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Yen Vu, can be reached on (703) 305-4393. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-5399.

Art Unit: 2172

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

TV:tv

12/16/00



KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100